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## FOR THE NORTH-AMERICAN JOURNAL.

IN one of your late reviews, I read with much pleasure a letter written in 1790 by the Hon. J. Adams, late President of the United States, to the late Dr. Price, on the subject of the French revolution.

Looking over some old newspapers it was with increased satisfaction, that I found another letter, from the same venerable character, written about that time, and addressed to the honourable Samuel Adams, on the same subject. The concluding paragraph displays the wonderful sagacity and foresight of this great statesman. Your causing it to be inserted in your work will oblige,

Yours, &c.

NOVANGLIA.

New-York, September 12, 1790.

DEAR SIR,

UPON my return from Philadelphia, to which beloved city I have been for the purpose of getting an house to put my head in next winter, I had the pleasure of receiving your favour of the second of this month.\*

The sight of our old liberty hall, and of several of our old friends, had brought your venerable idea to my mind, and continued it there a great part of the last week, so that a letter from you on my arrival, seemed but in continuation. I am much obliged to the confidential friend for writing the short letter you dictated, and shall beg a continuation of good offices.†

Capt. \*\*\*\* whom I know very well, has my hearty good wishes. I shall give your letter and his to the Secretary of the Treasury, the duty of whose department it is to receive and examine all applications of the kind. Applications will probably be made in behalf of the officers who served the last war in the navy, and they will be likely to have the preference to all others; but Capt. \*\*\*\*'s application shall nevertheless be presented, and have a fair chance.

My family, as well as myself, are, I thank God, in good health, and in as good spirits as the prospect of a trouble-

\* Congress had voted to remove from New-York to Philadelphia.

† Governour Adams was at that time obliged to employ an *Amanuensis*.

some removal will admit. Mrs. A—— desires her particular regards to your lady and yourself.

What, my old friend, is this world about to become? Is the millenium commencing? Are the kingdoms of it about to be governed by reason? Your Boston town-meetings, and our Harvard College, have set the universe in motion. Every thing will be pulled down. So much seems certain—but what will be built up. Are there any principles of political architecture? What are they? Were Voltaire and Rousseau masters of them? Are their disciples acquainted with them? Locke taught them principles of liberty, but I doubt very much whether they have not yet to learn the principles of government. *Will the struggle in Europe be any thing more than a change of impostors and impositions?*

With great esteem and sincere affection, I am, my dear Sir, your friend and servant,

JOHN ADAMS.

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*Extracts from Chateaubriand's Recollections, a work recently published.*

“I have still a recollection of the happiness which I experienced during a night passed amidst dreary deserts, when my wood fire was half extinguished, my guide asleep, and my horses grazing at a distance.—I have still a recollection, I say, of the happiness which I experienced when I heard the mingled melody of the winds and waters, as I reclined upon the earth, deep in the bosom of the forest.

“These murmurs, at one time feeble, at another more loud, increasing and decreasing every instant, made me occasionally start; and every tree was to me a sort of lyre, from which the winds extracted strains conveying ineffable delight.

“At the present day I perceive that I am less sensible to these charms of nature, and I doubt whether the cataract of Niagara would cause the same degree of admiration in my mind, which it formerly inspired.

“When one is very young, nature is eloquent in silence, because there is a superabundance in the heart of man. All his futurity is before him (if my Aristarchus will allow